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PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:

SEIJI HASHIMOTO, ET AL.

Application No.: 09/299,874

Filed: April 27, 1999

For: ARRANGEMENT OF CIRCUITS
IN PIXELS EACH CIRCUITS
SHARED BY A PLURALITY
OF PIXELS, IN IMAGE
SENSING APPARATUS

Examiner: Nhan T. Tran

Group Art Unit: 2615

RECEIVED

DEC 10 2003

Technology Center 2600

December 3, 2003

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

SUPPLEMENTAL
INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Sir:

In compliance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. § 1.56 and in accordance with the practice under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 and 1.98, the Examiner's attention is directed to the documents listed on the enclosed Form PTO-1449. Copies of the listed documents are also enclosed.

The cited references were called to Applicants' attention in a Japanese Office Action dated July 29, 2003 for Japanese Patent Application No. 10-138253, which is a counterpart to the instant case. A copy of that Office Action is also enclosed. For the concise explanation of relevance for the non-English documents, the Examiner is referred to the English Abstracts attached.

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Applicants note that WO 97/07631 includes pages relevant to the present invention of its English version of EP 0 845 900 A1. In addition, Applicants note that JPA 6-204450 corresponds with U.S. Patent No. 5,418,387 (Nakamura et al.).

A check in the amount of \$180.00 in payment of the fee required for consideration of this information is enclosed. Please charge any additional fee required in connection with this paper, and credit any overpayment, to our Deposit Account 06-1205.

It is respectfully requested that the above information be considered by the Examiner and that a copy of the enclosed Form PTO-1449 be returned indicating that such information has been considered.

Applicants' undersigned attorney may be reached in our New York office by telephone at (212) 218-2100. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our address given below.

Respectfully submitted,



Attorney for Applicants

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